

## Message Text

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10

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 AID-05 OMB-01 IO-11 /079 W

----- 017333

R 051725Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4730

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 1496

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJECT: NO LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY: PERONIST CONGRESS MAY BE  
DOG FIGHT

REF: BUENOS AIRES 1450

1. AS EXPECTED (SEE REFTTEL), SEN LUDER YESTERDAY (MAR 4)  
ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD NOT RPT NOT CONVOKE LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY. HIS GROUNDS, HE SAID, WERE PURELY JURIDICAL.  
AFTER CLOSE STUDY HE HAD DECIDED CONVOCATION WOULD BE  
UNCONSTITUTIONAL. LUDER SUGGESTED MULTIPARTY MEETING OUTSIDE  
CONGRESS AS BEST FORMAT TO TRY TO SOLVE EXISTING CRISIS.

2. REACTION FROM SOME OPPOSITION CONGRESSMEN WAS SHARP.  
GUILLERMO FERNANDEZ GIL (FEDERALIST PARTY, BUENOS AIRES),  
FOR EXAMPLE, SAID THAT LUDER HAD OBVIOUSLY BEEN BOUGHT OFF.  
BY VERTICALISTAS AROUND MRS. PERON AND THAT BY HIS ACTION HE  
"HAD BLOCKED LAST POSSIBILITY FOR AN INSTITUTIONAL SOLUTIN"  
TO PRESENT CRISIS. GIL WENT ON TO SAY THIS SIMPLY CONFIRMED  
HIS CONVICTION THAT PERONISM WAS INCAPABLE OF RECTIFICATIONS.

3. THAT PERONISM NO LONGER CAPABLE EVEN OF SOLVING ITS OWN  
INTERNAL CRISIS WILL PROBABLY BE DEMONSTRATED AT PARTY  
CONGRESS WHICH DUE TO CONVENE TOMORROW (MARCH 6).  
DELEGATES ALREADY SPLIT ALONG THREE OR FOUR SHARPLY CONTENDINO

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LINES WITH LITTLE CHANCE OF RECONCILIATION. MRS. PERON'S  
PRIVATE SECRETARY, JULIO GONZALEZ, QUOTED AS SAYAING

CONGRESS WILL BE CONTROLLED BY VERTICALISTAS OR  
THERE WON'T BE A CONGRESS. AT THIS POINT, HOWEVER, ANTI-  
VERTICALISTAS CLEARLY HAVE MAJORITY OF DELEGATES. IN  
SHORT, CONGRESS PROMISES TO TURN INTO DOG FIGHT.

4. COMMENT: WHAT HAPPENS AT THE PARTY CONGRESS WILL NOT,  
IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT THE OUTCOME  
OF PRESENT POLITICAL CRISIS. MILITARY STILL LIKELY TO  
TAKE OVER NO MATTER WHAT TAKES PLACE AT THE CONGRESS.  
SHOULD A REAL DONNYBROOK OCCUR, HOWEVER, IT WOULD AT THE  
VERY LEAST GIVE ADDED CREDENCE TO MILITARY'S CONTENTION  
THAT CIVILIAN INSTITUTIONS AT THIS POINT INCAPABLE OF  
PROVIDING SOLUTIONS TO NATION'S PROBLEMS.  
HILL

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
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